AMENDMENT

In the Claims

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 - 59 (Cancelled)

60. (New) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

(a) an amino acid sequence having at least 99% identity to amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2; or,

(b) an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

61. (New) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 60, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

62. (New) The polypeptide of claim 60, wherein the polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

63. (New) The polypeptide of claim 60, wherein the polypeptide comprises an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

64. (New) An isolated fusion protein comprising the polypeptide of claim 60.

65. (New) The isolated fusion protein of claim 64, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 99% identity to SEQ ID NO:2.

66. (New) The isolated fusion protein of claim 65, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

67. (New) The fusion protein of claim 64, wherein the fusion protein comprises an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

68. (New) An isolated polynucleotide, at least a portion of whose sequence, encodes a polypeptide comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 60.

69. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 68, at least a portion of whose sequence, encodes a polypeptide having at least 99% identity to the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2.

70. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 69, at least a portion of whose sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

71. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 69, at least a portion of whose sequence encodes a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

72. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 69, at least a portion of whose sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

73. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 60, obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the corresponding DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

74. (New) The isolated polynucleotide according to any one of claims 68 - 72, in which a portion of said sequence, comprises SEQ ID NO:1, or the full complement to said isolated polynucleotide.

75. (New) An expression vector or a recombinant live microorganism comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 74.

76. (New) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 75.

77. (New) A subcellular fraction or membrane isolated from the host cell of claim 76.

78. (New) A process for producing a polypeptide expressed by the host cell of claim 76, comprising culturing the host cell under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.

79. (New) A process for expressing the polynucleotide of claim 68, comprising transforming a host cell with an expression vector comprising said polynucleotide and culturing said host cell under conditions sufficient for expression of said polynucleotide.

80. (New) An immunogenic composition comprising an effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 60 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

81. (New) The immunogenic composition of claim 80, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

82. (New) The immunogenic composition of claim 80, wherein the polypeptide comprises an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when

administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

83. (New) An immunogenic composition comprising an effective amount of the fusion protein of claim 64 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

84. (New) The immunogenic composition of claim 83, wherein the fusion protein comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

85. (New) The immunogenic composition of claim 83, wherein the fusion protein comprises an immunogenic fragment of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the immunogenic fragment is capable, when administered to a subject as a conjugate with a suitable carrier or in a composition which can include an adjuvant, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

86. (New) The immunogenic composition according to any one of claims 80 - 85, further comprising a non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* protein other than a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2, or immunogenic fragment thereof.

87. (New) The immunogenic composition according to claim 86, wherein the immunogenic composition is capable, when administered to an individual, of protecting the individual from infection by non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae*.

88. (New) A vaccine composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 60, wherein the composition is capable, when administered to an individual, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

89. (New) The vaccine composition of claim 88, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

90. (New) The vaccine composition of claim 88, wherein the polypeptide comprises an immunogenic fragment consisting of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

91. (New) A vaccine composition comprising the fusion protein of claim 64, wherein the composition is capable, when administered to a subject, of inducing an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2.

92. (New) The vaccine composition of claim 91, wherein the fusion protein comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

93. (New) The vaccine composition of claim 91, wherein the fusion protein comprises an immunogenic fragment of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

94. (New) The vaccine composition according to any one of claims 88 – 93, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

95. (New) The vaccine composition of claim 94, further comprising a non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae* protein other than a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2, or immunogenic fragment thereof.

96. (New) A method of inducing in a mammal an antibody response that recognizes an epitope within SEQ ID NO:2, comprising administering to the mammal the vaccine composition according to claim 95.